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received a chronometer in which the prepared oil had been used; which having performed a voyage of 16 months to and from India, was then vibrating as freely as at first, and keeping the rate it went out with to a fraction of a second."

In a letter to Mr. Walker, inserted at large in the original paper, Mr. Barraud farther states, "that for upwards of ten years he had constantly used the prepared oil for his chronometers, and in their return from long voyages always found the oil in good condition, and much better than any he had been able to procure before; Mr. Barraud also induced Mr. Brockbank to try it, who very gratefully acknowledged the advantage he had derived from its use; having found Mr. Walker's oil, on the return of his chronometers from India, far superior in quality to any he had before been able to procure."

The following is Mr. Walker's directions for preparing the pure oil, above mentioned.

"Put a quantity of the best olive oil into a phial, with two or three times as much water, so that the phial may be about half full; shake the phial briskly for a little time, turn the cork downwards, and let most part of the water flow out between the side of the cork and the neck of the phial. Thus the oil must be washed five or six times. After the last quantity of water has been poured off, what remains is a mixture of water, oil, and mucilage.—To separate these from each other put the phial into hot water for three

or four minutes, and most part of the water will fall to the bottom, which must be drawn off as before.

The oil must then be poured into a smaller phial, which being nearly full, must be well corked, set in a cool place, and be suffered to stand undisturbed for three or four months, or until all the water shall have subsided, with the mucilage on the top of it, and the oil perfectly transparent swimming upon the top of the mucilage. When time has thus compleated the operation, the pure oil must be poured off into very small phials, and kept in a cool place, well corked to preserve it from the air.

*Improvement in writing and printing numbers, consisting of many digits, by A. Reirtalp.*

*Phil. Mag.* xxxvi; 397.

When a number such as 69,470,600,078,406,300,097, presents itself, though pointed in periods of three figures, the manner of expressing it in words does not immediately occur to the mind. The mode which Mr. Reirtalp proposes as an improvement is, besides pointing it in periods of three figures, to place one accent over the seventh figure, or millions; two accents over the 13th figure, or billions; and so on, increasing the accents at every myriad,

thus— $\overset{m}{69},\overset{n}{470},\overset{r}{600},\overset{t}{078},\overset{q}{406},\overset{u}{300},\overset{v}{097}$ , by which we can perceive at once, that the two first figures denote trillions, without the usual mode of reckoning according to the Numeration table.

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